Increasing the production capacity of Kudremukh Iron Ore Project

433. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any decision has been taken to increase the capacity of Kudremukh Iron Ore Project ;

(b) if so, what are the details regarding the extent of increase, project cost and means of financing, completion time, export projections etc.; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what steps Government are considering to make the Kudremukh Iron Ore Project profitable ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Steps taken to improve the profitability of Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited have already yielded results and the Company has recorded a profit during the first quarter of the current year. Further efforts in this direction continue to be made.

Telecast of Mahabharat Serial

434. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether an application has been received from the producer of the serial MAHABHARAT for extension beyond 52 episodes ;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto ;

(c) whether serials based on the epics of other religions are also under consideration for telecast on Doordarshan ; and

(d) the steps being taken to improve the quality of TV serials ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (PROF. K. K. TEWARY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Since it is felt that the producer is not able to complete the epic story in 52 episodes, the Government is agreeable to extend this serial by some more episodes.

(c) A serial based on Biblical stories has been approved in principle for telecast on the national network.

(d) In order to improve the quality of TV serials, the Government have revised the scheme for sponsored serials. As per this scheme, applications were invited from experienced producers/directors for registration with Doordarshan as producers/directors. A selection Board consisting of knowledgeable non-official experts and senior officials has screened the applications received in this regard and has recommended a panel of 1305 names for registration as producers/directors with Doordarshan. In future, proposals for sponsored programmes will be invited only from those producers/directors who are registered with Doordarshan. Since only experienced persons from the field of art and films will be handling the proposals for sponsored serials in future, the quality of serials is expected to improve.

Constitution of Development Board for the Planned Growth of Trans yamuna area

435. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether population of trans-Yamuna area in Delhi has increased touching around twenty-eight lakh mark;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the basic civic amenities and community

services have fallen much short of the needs of the increased populace living in that area;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to constitute a Development Board for the palnned g·owth of the trans-Yamuna areas to bring it at par with other parts of the metropolis; and

(d) if not, what steps Government propose to take to meet the above objective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVE LOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH (a) to (d) The population in the trans-Yamuna area, as per census for 1981, was 10.29 lakhs. Latest estimates of population are not available. There has been a strain on the civic amenities and community services on account of rapid increase in population and these are being progressively provided by the concerned authorities. There is no proposal to constitute a Development Board because planned development in the trans-Yamuna is already taking place at par with the other parts of the metropolis.

Increase in the Price of subsidised rice

436. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had raised the supply price of common rice and other varieties such as fine and superfine rice etc. per kg. supplied to States in October 1987 and again on the 25th January, 1989; and

(b) whether the supply price of common rice was Rs. 1.80 per kg. at any time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The Central issue prices of fine and superfine varieties of rice issued under the Public Distribution System and for I. T. D. P. areas and the tribal majority States were revised w.e.f. October 1, 1987 and w.e.f. January 25, 1989. The Central issue prices of common rice was revised w.e.f. January, 25, 1989.

(b) It was Rs. 1.85 per kg.

खरीफ की फसल के लिए राज्यों को अल्पकालिक ऋण

437. **श्री शान्ति त्यागी :** क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार ने खरीफ की फसल के लिए राज्य सरकारों को अल्पकालिक ऋण देने का निर्णय लिया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) प्रत्येक राज्य को ऋण के लिए कितनी-कितनी धनराशि प्रदान की जा रही है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में कृषि और सहकारिता विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्याम लाल यादव) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां। उर्वरकों, बीजों, और कीटनाशी दवा इयों जैसे कृषि आदानों को खरीद और वितरण के वास्ते खरीफ मौसम के लिए छोटी अवधि के कर्ज सुलभ कराए जाते हैं ;

(ग) खरीफ, 1989 मौसम के लिए राज्यों के वास्ते मंजूर किए गए छोटी अवधि के कर्ज की राशि संलग्न विवरण पत्र में दी गई है।

विवरण

(रुपए करोड़ में)

क्रम सं०	राज्य का नाम	धनराशि
1	2	3
1.	आंध्र प्रदेश	12.50
2.	कर्नाटक	9.40